

COPY NO. 18

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
18 March 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Intelligence)

SUBJECT: Afro-Asian Conference Developments

Twenty-nine of the thirty countries invited to send delegations to the Bandung conference have accepted. The only country to decline is the Central African Federation.

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A number of chief delegates have recently been appointed. The Afghan delegation will be headed by Foreign Minister Naim who is basically a neutralist and likely to follow India's lead. Foreign Minister Prince Hasan will be Yemen's chief representative and will look to Egypt and Saudi Arabia for guidance. Prime Minister Katay is tentatively scheduled to lead the Laotian group. He would probably be a generally passive participant. Iranian Finance Minister Amini has been asked to be his country's chief delegate and the American embassy in Tehran regards him to be a good choice. The Gold Coast will be represented by Kojo Botsio, a close

State Dept. review completed

Document No. 78
 No Change In Class. ☒ 25X1 25X1
☐ Declassified
 Class. Changed To: 25X1
 01172R000300370008-2
 Date: 28 July 78 By:

Approved For Release 2007/02/08 : CIA-RDP91T01172R000300370008-2

confidant of Kwame Nkrumah who, despite leftist inclinations developed during his school days in the UK, has reportedly become outspokenly critical of Communism in recent years. Acting Secretary of State Dukuly, a Moslem, has been appointed chairman of the Liberian representatives and undoubtedly will follow a generally pro-Western line, although he is unlikely to make any important contributions to the proceedings. In Vietnam, Premier Diem has indicated interest in going to Bandung for at least part of the conference, but is withholding decision for the time being. Meanwhile, the Burmese premier has expressed the opinion that Chou En-lai would not personally attend unless there was a lessening of tension in the Formosa Strait.

The American embassy in Djakarta reports that the Indonesian official who heads the conference planning group appeared to be upset by the reports that the Chinese Communists were planning to send a 120-man delegation to Bandung, despite the limit of twenty set by the planners. He indicated, however, that any such abuse would be overlooked by stating that additional visas would be issued to any excess delegates who could prove that accommodations were available, which should be no obstacle to the Chinese. The Indonesian also pointed out that some countries were sending only five or six delegates which would permit some reallocation of housing presently at hand. 25X1

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